

Pennsylvania for a year. After applying to his dream school a second time, he finally received his acceptance to the prestigious Air Force Service Academy.

After graduating from the Academy and undergoing extensive pilot training, Ellisor served as an E-3 AWACS pilot until retiring from the Air Force in 2007. His service brought him to the skies of Germany, where he led multi-national crews comprised of airmen from 13 NATO countries in peace keeping missions over the skies of Kosovo. He went on to protect and defend American airspace after 9/11 and took part in multiple operations in the Middle East during the War on Terror.

Ellisor has long been someone who has helped others. During his time in the Air Force, he served as the Assistant Director of Operations of the 552nd Training Squadron, training over 300 young air crewmen during his tenure. After his retirement from the Air Force, he formed a small business, Service Academy Consulting, in order to help high school students with dreams like his attend one of the elite service academies.

Ellisor selfless side showed itself again last week when he and Tammie Jo Shults saved 148 lives as their commercial airplane suddenly seemed to fall from the sky. On a seemingly ordinary day, First Officer Darren Ellisor and Pilot Tammie Jo Shults prepared for takeoff, all systems a go. Shortly after takeoff, Southwest Airlines flight 1380's left engine exploded. Ellisor and Shults's military training kicked in, calmly bringing the plane to low altitude, and the duo eventually landed the plane safely in Philadelphia.

Mr. Speaker, Air Force veteran and Southwest Airlines pilot Darren Ellisor has a storied career serving our great Nation in the United States Airforce. His dedication to his country and aid in what could have been a disastrous situation are commendable. He truly embodies what it means to be a great American.

And that's just the way it is.

HONORING JEAN BARR  
DONALDSON III

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 27, 2018

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Jean Barr Donaldson III, who retired on March 23, 2018 as the Under-sheriff of the Napa County Sheriff's Office, after 30 years of service to Napa County.

A native of San Francisco and Novato, Mr. Donaldson graduated from San Marin High School in Novato in 1981. He attended Santa Rosa Junior College and Sacramento State University, where he graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice in 1986. Mr. Donaldson then attended and graduated from the Basic Police Academy at the Santa Rosa Junior College Northern California Criminal Justice Center.

Mr. Donaldson was sworn in as a Deputy Sheriff in the Napa County Sheriff's Office in 1988. As a Deputy, he spent several years patrolling the Napa Valley and Lake Berryessa areas and was selected to be a member of the SWAT Team. Mr. Donaldson was then selected to work in the Investigations Bureau as a Detective. In 1988 he was promoted to Ser-

geant and was assigned to supervise the Patrol, Special Investigations and Animal Services Bureaus. Mr. Donaldson was promoted to Lieutenant in 2002 and worked as the manager of the Investigations and Civil/Coroner Bureaus. In 2008, he was promoted to Captain and spent several years as manager of the Operations Division and four years as the Chief of Police of American Canyon. In 2013 Mr. Donaldson was promoted to Undersheriff where he managed the day to day operations of the entire Sheriff's Office.

Mr. Donaldson has also spent countless hours volunteering in our community. He has volunteered as a wrestling coach at the Napa Sheriff's Activities League and as a football coach at Napa High School. He is a loving husband to his wife Marni and a proud parent of their children Sean and Macki.

Mr. Speaker, Jean Barr Donaldson III has dedicated his life to serving our community and protecting others. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor him here today.

AREZ GHAFOUR

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 27, 2018

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Arez Ghafour for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Arez Ghafour is a student at Drake Middle School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Arez Ghafour is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Arez Ghafour for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

FAA REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF  
2018

SPEECH OF

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2018

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4) to reauthorize programs of the Federal Aviation Administration, and for other purposes:

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Chair, the United States maintains the world's safest and most complex aviation system in the world. The last multi-year FAA reauthorization bill expired in 2015. Since then, Congress has taken a patchwork approach to regulating Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) operations and programs, which I believe has threatened the safety and efficiency

of our airways. Today, as we consider reauthorizing the programs and regulations that dictate how we manage our nation's airspace, I am encouraged that we are making real progress on a long-term bill that will reauthorize FAA operations through FY 2023.

Overall, this bill represents an important first step to providing the long-term assurances and reliability that we need at the federal level to support FAA operations in Texas and across the country. Dallas is home to the fourth busiest airport in the world by aircraft movements, the Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport, and the largest hub for American Airlines. Having the certainty of a long-term authorization bill will help solidify the Dallas metroplex as a major hub for domestic travel and commerce, and allow it to flourish as an international gateway to every part of the world. The longer we delay passage of a long-term bill, the more expensive and more time consuming it will be to modernize our airspace for a 21st Century economy.

This measure is not without criticism. I am disappointed to see that the underlying bill includes dramatic cuts to the Research, Engineering, and Development (RE&D) title that is lowered than the amounts appropriated in the FY 2018 Omnibus. I offered an amendment to restore critical RE&D funding for environmental sustainability, but I was disappointed that the Rules Committee would not make that language in order. Furthermore, I introduced an amendment to ensure transparency and accountability in FAA investment decisions by requiring performance-based standards to drive the evaluation and adoption of new aviation technologies, rather than arbitrary deadlines set by special interests.

Mr. Speaker, while not perfect, H.R. 4 represents a discernible improvement over the piecemeal approach that Congress has taken with its series of short-term extensions over the years. Our nation's aviation stakeholders need the long-term certainty of federal involvement that only comes with a multi-year reauthorization of FAA programs. H.R. 4 would largely achieve that goal to provide the support and resources for the aviation community all across the United States. Therefore, barring no gross changes to the legislation, I offer my support to this legislation and urge my colleagues to support the underlying bill.

HONORING THE SESQUICENTEN-  
NIAL OF HAMPTON UNIVERSITY

HON. ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 27, 2018

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an institution that has been at the forefront of education in America for the last 150 years. This April, Hampton University is celebrating the 150th anniversary of its founding. To mark the occasion, I would like to take a moment and recognize the wonderful legacy of this institution of higher education that lives on today.

The seeds from which Hampton University grew were planted in 1861. During the Civil War, Fort Monroe, the Union-controlled coastal fortress, was a beacon to slaves in Hampton, Virginia and the surrounding towns. General Benjamin Butler, Commanding Officer of